

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Michael NAESBY

Serial No.: 09/137,822

Filed: August 21, 1998

For: SMALL TRIPLEX FORMING PNA OLIGOS



Group Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: Enewold, J.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 27, 2000

Sir:

This response to the Office Action dated September 27, 1999 is being filed along with a Petition for Extension of Time to extend the response period for one month from December 27, 1999 to January 27, 2000. In response to the Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, line 3, at the beginning of the line, delete "Figure 1" and insert --Figure 1a and Figure 1b--;

line 7, after "In" delete "Figure 2" and insert --Figure 2a and Figure 2b--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 1-30 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims to the application.

- a' --31. A method for determining the presence or amount of a nucleic acid A, comprising:
- (a) forming a triple stranded complex between said nucleic acid A, a nucleic acid A binding